# Financial Overview FY Ending June 30, 2009

### **General Appropriation**

|                              | Actual       |
|------------------------------|--------------|
| Revenues                     |              |
| General Appropriation        | \$ 2,846,597 |
| EXPENDITURES                 |              |
| Commissioners                | \$1,088,011  |
| Administration               | 397,651      |
| Claims                       | 289,792      |
| Insurance & Medical Services | 233,815      |
| Judicial                     | 144,208      |
| Fringe Benefits              | 693,115      |
|                              | \$ 2,846,592 |

| Earmarked Funds              |              |
|------------------------------|--------------|
|                              | Actual       |
| Revenues                     |              |
| Training Conference          | \$3,875      |
| Publications & Brochures     | 8,548        |
| Award Review Fees            | 98,949       |
| Sale of Photocopies          | 102,767      |
| Filing Violation Fees        | 1,478,221    |
| Sale of Listings and Labels  | 35,194       |
| Hearing Fees                 | 635,254      |
| Total                        | \$ 2,362,808 |
| Transfer Fund Balance        | 266,928      |
| Total Revenues               | \$ 2,629,736 |
| Expenditures                 |              |
| Commissioners                | \$510,704    |
| Administration               | 902,862      |
| Claims                       | 303,103      |
| Insurance & Medical Services | 345,045      |
| Judicial                     | 322,180      |
| Other Employee Contributions | 245,842      |
| Total Expenditures           | \$ 2,629,736 |
| Grand Total                  | \$ 2,629,736 |
|                              | *            |

Computer System Data Base

\$432,672

#### LEGISLATIVE AND REGULATORY ACTIVITY

#### **LEGISLATION**

No legislation passed during this fiscal year that affected the Workers' Compensation Law.

#### REGULATIONS

In an effort to comply with statute changes enacted by the approval of Act 111 and refine the process for adhering to statutory requirements, the Commission proposed to amend and add regulations to Chapter 67. The proposal was published in the State Register on November 26, 2008 and is currently pending approval by the General Assembly.

# South Carolina Workers' Compensation Commission

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Office of the Executive Director
803-737-5744
Division of Public Affairs
803-737-5713
Insurance and Medical Services Department
803-737-6203
Coverage Division
803-737-5704
Judicial Department
803-737-5675
Claims Department
803-737-5723

# References

South Carolina Workers' Compensation

Code of Law, Title 42

South Carolina Code of Regulations (annotated)

Chapter 67

Schedule of Period of Disability and Compensation

§42-9-30

2009 Average Weekly Wage

\$681.36

South Carolina Workers' Compensation Commission www.wcc.sc.gov

Annual Report 2008-2009



# To the Citizens of South Carolina:

The South Carolina Workers' Compensation Commission is pleased to provide a report of its activities and accomplishments for Fiscal Year 2008 - 2009. As documented in the following pages, the Commission has worked hard to continue to improve its administration and management of South Carolina's workers' compensation system. Fiscal year 2008 - 2009 was a very productive year for the Commission, with continuous accomplishments in three major areas: the use of technology to improve operations, process times and efficiency.

Even with these gains, the Commission remains committed to providing an equitable and timely system of benefits to injured workers and employers in the most responsive, accurate, and reliable manner possible.

Sincerely,

Andrea C. Roche, Chairman

# *COMMISSIONERS*July 1, 2008 - June 30, 2009

Andrea C. Roche, Chairman Appointed: July 1, 2006

Susan S. Barden, Vice Chair Appointed: May 27, 2004

G. Bryan Lyndon Appointed: April 10, 2004

David W. Huffstetler Appointed: August 27, 2004

Derrick L. Williams Appointed: March 15, 2007

T. Scott Beck Appointed: July 1, 2008

Avery B. Wilkerson, Jr. Appointed: July 1, 2008

## THE YEAR IN REVIEW

Fiscal Year 2008-2009 was another productive year for the Commission. As of July 1, 2007 the Commission was required to maintain all claim files for fifteen years. In an effort to comply in the most cost effective manner, the agency began electronic storage of closed cases. The process of scanning compliance investigations, self insurance files, and Claim Form 15, 158, 17, 18, and 20 was created and implemented. On average, 18,000 documents are scanned per month.

Software development to provide web access to hearing and appeal schedules and other claims status information for registered users was completed. Registered users will be able to track changes in hearing schedules, add an attorney to a case and access claim numbers through the new application. This information is currently researched manually by commission employees, providing electronic access will minimize research time in several departments.

Electronic document management was introduced through scanning and imaging documents. Software development was completed allowing the Commission to receive First Report of Injury claim information through Electronic Data Interface Release 3. This is the first step in the Commission being able to receive claim payment reports and periodic status reports electronically. The development of departmental and individual electronic workflows has allowed the Commission to streamline business processes.

On June 1, 2009 the Commission relocated to 1333 Main Street. The new location has served as a valuable asset to the agency as it contains cost and provides centralized access to constituents. The fiscal impact of relocating is an estimated \$83,857 annually, resulting in a net savings of \$587,000 over a seven year lease.

The Commission has implemented an automated process to monitor outstanding fines, which prompts late notices to be created according to a batch program run bimonthly. The result is a systematic follow up process driven by the age of an outstanding fine to replace a reliance upon the assessor to manually send late notices.

The Commission held one day training sessions for three insurance carriers and held a claims administrations seminar for fifty attendees. The purpose of providing training to agency constituents is to minimize the number of file deficiencies. Lowering file deficiencies results in minimizing the number of fine assessments and expedites hearings.

| STATISTICAL RECAP   |               |  |
|---|---------------|--|
| Number of Policies Issued                                 | 76,478        |  |
| Number of Employers Qualifying as Self-Insurers           | 2,605         |  |
| Investigations Active Beginning of Fiscal Year            | 127           |  |
| Investigations Initiated                                  | 1,092         |  |
| Investigations Set for Show Cause Hearings/               | 111           |  |
| Consent Agreements Received                               | 344           |  |
| Total Investigations Closed                               | 443           |  |
| Investigations Active at Close of Fiscal Year             | 334           |  |
| Number of Accident Cases Filed with the<br>Commission     | 71,973        |  |
| A. New Cases  | 70,235        |  |
| B. Reopened cases   | 1,738         |  |
| Number of Cases Closed during Fiscal Year                 | 71,973        |  |
| A. Individually Reported Accidents                        | 26,313        |  |
| B. Minor Medical Only Accidents Reported                  | 45,660        |  |
| Total Compensation & Medical Cost Paid<br>on Closed Cases | \$922,740,88  |  |
| Medical Costs   | \$422,442,693 |  |
| Compensation  | \$500,298,19  |  |
| Temporary Compensation Agreements                         | 15,512        |  |
| Agreements for Permanent Disability                       | 3,600         |  |
| Applications for Stop Payment *                           | 2,515         |  |
| Cases Docketed for Hearings                               | 9,866         |  |
| Cases Assigned for Informal Conferences                   | 3,734         |  |
| Hearings Conducted by Single Commissioners                | 2,345         |  |
| Informal Conferences Conducted                            | 3,141         |  |
| Decisions, Opinions & Orders, Single<br>Commissioners     | 2,444         |  |
| Cases Appealed to Full Commission for Review              | 700           |  |
| Reviews Conducted by Full Commission or Panel             | 450           |  |
| Decisions and Opinions by Full Commission or<br>Panel     | 504           |  |
| Commission Decisions Appealed to Circuit Court            | 219           |  |
| Common Law Settlements                                    | 10,506        |  |
| Attorney Fee Approvals                                    | 9,969         |  |
| Self-Insurance Tax Collected                              | \$5,330,997   |  |
| * Includes 60-Day Hearings                                |               |  |